

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A syringe comprising:

a hollow axially elongated barrel having distal and proximal ends;

a needle hub releasably secured to said distal end of said barrel;

a hollow needle and cup carried by said hub and in communication with the interior of the barrel;

a plunger axially slidable in said barrel and having a thumbpress at a proximal end thereof and external to said proximal end of the barrel, said plunger including a bung adjacent an opposite end thereof and within the barrel;

~~a~~an elongated hook extending from said bung toward said needle hub, said hook comprising at least ~~one~~two angled tines, said hook engageable within said cup to secure said plunger to said needle and said cup solely in response to axial movement of said plunger toward said distal end of the barrel;

said hook in engagement with said cup carried by the needle hub enabling detachment and removal of said needle cup with said needle from said distal end of the barrel and withdrawal of said needle cup and said needle into the barrel in response to axial sliding movement of the plunger away from the distal end of the barrel.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The syringe of claim 14 wherein said at least ~~one~~two tines comprises five tines.

17. (Previously Presented) The syringe of claim 14 wherein said needle and said cup are formed as one.

18. (Previously Presented) The syringe of claim 14 wherein said barrel is formed with a circular catch at a proximal end of the barrel, said catch adapted to be engaged by said bung upon withdrawal of the needle and cup into the barrel to thereby prevent fully withdrawal of the plunger from the barrel.